

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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OMB-01 IO-13 CPR-02 RSR-01 /098 W

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R 021515Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7668

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1679

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY US

SUBJECT: TURK CYPRIOTS RESTRICT DIPLOMATS FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

REF: NICOSIA 1629

SUMMARY: TCPA HAS ISSUED NOTICE EFFECT OF WHICH IS TO EXCLUDE FOREIGN DIPLOMATS FROM TMT MILITARY FUNCTIONS WITHOUT SPECIFIC INVITATION. AT OUR REQUEST, EMBOFFS INVITED AUG 1 TMT ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY. WE ARGUE RESTRICTION NOT IN TURK CYPRIOT INTEREST; THEY HINT MATTER SHOULD BE PURSUED IN ANKARA.

1. FOLLOWING EXPULSION EMBOFF AUSTRIAN FROM TMT EXERCISE (REFTEL), TCPA ISSUED JULY 31 ANNOUNCEMENT REQUESTING FOREIGN DIPLOMATS AND MEMBERS PRESS CORPS APPLY FOR INVITATION BEFORE ATTENDING ANY MILITARY EXERCISE OR DEMONSTRATION. TURKISH TEXT (NOT ENGLISH) EXPLAINS THAT EVENTS ADVERTISED AS OPEN TO PUBLIC (HALKI ACIKTIR) IN FACT OPEN ONLY TO MEMBERS TURK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY. ANNOUNCEMENT DISTRIBUTED ALL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, PRINTED TURK CYPRIOT PRESS, AND CARRIED ON RADIO BAYRAK.

2. DATT AND AUSTRIAN REQUESTED PERMISSION ATTEND TMT'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY ON AUG 1, AT WHICH VICE PRES DENKTASH DELIVERED KEYNOTE ADDRESS. PERMISSION PROMPTLY GRANTED AND
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INVITATION ISSUED IN NAME TCPA MEMBER FOR DEFENSE OREK. BOTH

OFFICERS ATTENDED FUNCTION (AS DID BAYRAKTAR AND OTHER CLANDESTINE TURKISH OFFICERS) WITHOUT INCIDENT.

3. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH TCPA OFFICIALS AND TURKISH EMBASSY OFFICERS WE CAREFULLY DIFFERENTIATING BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EVENTS. WHILE WE CLEARLY RECOGNIZE TURK CYPRIOTS RIGHT HOLD PRIVATE MEETINGS AND MILITARY DEMONSTRATIONS, WE MAINTAINING THAT IT IS A SERIOUS EFFORT TO EXCLUDE FOREIGN DIPLOMATS FROM PUBLIC EVENTS IN TURKISH AREAS. IN PARTICULAR, WE POINTING OUT THAT STRICT INTERPRETATION PARA 1 WOULD SEVERELY LIMIT DIPLOMATIC ACCESS TO TURK CYPRIOT ENCLAVES SINCE TMT MOUNTS, AT MINIMUM, ONE PARADE PER WEEK ON NICOSIA PUBLIC STREETS. WE ARGUING THAT OUTSIDE COMMUNIST BLOC, LIMITATIONS ON DIPLOMATIC FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT PRACTICALLY UNKNOWN, AT LEAST WITH RESPECT REPRESENTATIVES OF FRIENDLY STATES.

4. IN ADDITION, WE NOTE THAT TURK CYPRIOT OFFICIALS (AND TURKISH EMBASSY) HAVE CONSISTENTLY URGED US PAY MORE ATTENTION TO TURKISH COMMUNITY. IF WE UNABLE ATTEND PUBLIC FUNCTIONS, INEVITABLE RESULT WILL BE LESSENER INTEREST IN THEIR AFFAIRS AND, PERHAPS, LESS SYMPATHETIC HEARING FOR THEIR VIEWS ON INTERCOMMUNAL ISSUES.

COMMENT: TURK CYPRIOTS APPEAR ACCEPT OUR ARGUMENTS AND MAKE NO EFFORT DEFEND BAYRAKTARS ACTION (WITHOUT EXPLICITLY ADMITTING HE RESPONSIBLE). HOWEVER, THEY CLAIM INABILITY REVERSE DECISION TAKEN BY "HIGHER MILITARY AUTHORITY" AND STRONGLY HINT THAT THEY WISH USG WOULD RAISE ISSUE IN ANKARA. IF NO OBJECTION PERCEIVED, WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ANKARA TAKING SIMILAR LINE TO THAT OUTLINED ABOVE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH TURKISH OFFICIALS. END COMMENT.
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